

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Upon entry of this amendment, the pending claims will remain claims 1-8 and 11-18.

Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 11 may be found in the present specification in the passage extending from page 18, line 28 to page 19, line 6, especially at page 18, line 36, with reference to Fig. 8.

For the reasons given on 2-4 of the Official Action, claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over the disclosure of JP '834 in view of the disclosure of the Furukawa et al U.S. Patent No. 4,885,614.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Neither JP '834 nor the Furukawa patent suggest the presently claimed germanium free layer of SiC at the interface between the base layer and either the emitter layer or the collector layer.

To the extent that JP '834 suggests an interface region between the SiGe base layer and the emitter layer, this transition region is a SiGe layer, which is free of C. See Fig. 1b and Fig. 2 of JP '834. In the present claims, the transition layer between the base layer and the emitter layer is a layer of SiC, which is free of Ge.

The Furukawa patent fails to suggest any transition layer between the base layer and the emitter layer. At column 4, lines 36-44, it is indicated that a layer having a ratio of Si to Ge to C of 40 : 54 : 6. is grown on an Si layer. At column 5, lines 10-21, it is indicated that a Si layer is grown on a layer having a ratio of Si to Ge to C of 70 : 29 : 1. is grown on an Si layer. At column 5, lines 47-54, it is indicated that a layer having a ratio of Si to Ge to C of 40 : 54 : 6. is grown on an Si layer.

At column 6, lines 12-19, it is indicated that a layer having a ratio of Si to Ge to C of 60 : 36 : 4. is grown on an Si layer.

Accordingly, the rejection under 35 USC 103 should be withdrawn.

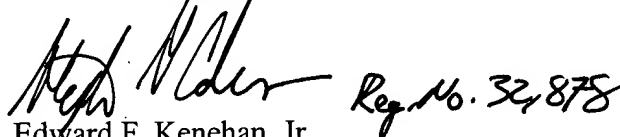
Allowance is requested.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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